

WILL ATTACK FLEET WITH AIR TORPEDOES

Naval Fliers to Test Offensive
Method for First Time
This Week.

OFF THE VIRGINIA CAPES

Officers Believe This Type of
Warfare Will Be More Ef-
fective Than Bombs.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Sept. 23.

The battleships of the Atlantic fleet will be attacked by airplanes firing torpedoes in a series of full scale experiments to be held next week off the Virginia Capes.

The tests are intended to demonstrate the value of this new weapon of aerial warfare, a development similar to the dropping of bombs from the air, but regarded in many ways as more advanced. It will be the first time in the history of naval warfare that such experiments have been held.

Admiral Coontz, director of navy operations, with a score of high naval officers will witness the tests, which are to begin next Tuesday and to be completed, weather permitting, on Wednesday. The party will leave Washington Monday night for Old Point Comfort, going then to the Southern drill grounds of the Atlantic fleet, about seventy-five miles off the Virginia Capes.

The battleships Wyoming, Arkansas, North Dakota, Delaware and Florida will be the targets of the seaplanes, 18 in number, each carrying a torpedo. The ships will take a course unknown to the fliers, whose base will be the Hampton Roads Air Station, approximately 100 miles away.

Up to this time the firing of torpedoes has been confined to surface craft, particularly destroyers, so that the launching of torpedoes from the air is a distinct innovation. In putting off a torpedo the airplane sweeps down almost to the surface of the water, makes its shot and gets away again in the air.

Experiments, almost entirely preliminary, have been going on with this type of warfare for the last two years at the Pensacola and Yorktown naval air stations. There have been no tests with battleships.

The navy has been pinning its faith in torpedo firing from airplanes rather than the dropping of bombs, the value of which was demonstrated last summer during a series of tests, when ten former German warships turned over to the United States under the terms of the armistice were sunk.

There are several reasons for this belief in the navy that torpedoes will be more effective than bombs in naval warfare. One is that bombs, hitting their target only with the force of gravity accumulated by their fall, detonate on the decks of ships without much chance of penetrating the vital parts. The effective bombs which accomplished the sinking of the ex-German ships were those, strange as it may seem, which, missing the target, exploded beneath the surface of the water and ripped open the seams. Armor piercing bombs with which some experiments have been made have not been so successful as the so-called thin wall bombs.

HERRIN MASSACRE LAID ON OFFICIALS

Continued from First Page.

the union or from fear of injuring his candidacy, the sheriff would make no demand for troops, nor did he take adequate measures to preserve the peace.

"From the evidence heard the attack of June 21, upon the men employed at the strip mine was the result of a conspiracy which had been several days in the perfecting, the object of which was the closing of the strip mine. Sheriff Thaxton could not have been unaware of the development of this plan.

Lewis' Telegram to Sneed.

"On June 19, State Senator William A. Sneed, district president of the United Mine Workers of this district, received from John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, a telegram reading as follows:

William Sneed, president sub-dis-

trict 10, district 12, United Mine Workers of America, Herrin, Ill.

Your wire eighteenth. Steam shovel men's union was suspended from affiliation with American Federation of Labor some years ago. It was also ordered suspended from the mining department of the American Federation of Labor at the Atlantic City convention.

We now find that this outlaw organization is permitting its members to act as strike breakers at numerous strip pits in Ohio. This organization is furnishing steam shovel engineers to work under armed guards with strike breakers. It is not true that any form of agreement exists by and between this organization and the mining department or any other branch of the American Federation of Labor, permitting them to work under such circumstances. We have through representatives officially taken this question up with the officers of the steam shovel men's union and have failed to secure any satisfaction. Representatives of our organization are justified in treating this crowd as an outlaw organization and in viewing its members

in the same light as they do any other common strike breakers.

JOHN L. LEWIS.

"A copy of this telegram was posted and read in various places. Following the publication of the telegram from President Lewis preparations for an attack upon the mine were made. The hardware stores in all the cities of Williamson county were searched for firearms. The weapons were either taken by force or upon a verbal assurance the local would pay for them.

"The men working at the strip mine were evidently ignorant of being strike breakers. The men operating the steam shovel were affiliated with a union, even though unrecognized by the American Federation of Labor.

Killing of Non-Union Men.

Describing how the non-union men were killed after being captured in the mine, the expert says:

"The captive men were marched down the road toward Herrin in double file. After they had marched about one mile Superintendent McDowell, being crippled and unable to keep up with the procession, was taken aside by members of the mob and shot to death. The re-

mainder of the captives were marched on the public road and were stopped at the power house of the Interurban Railroad, about three miles from Herrin.

"Here a change in leadership took place and the man who had guaranteed the safety of the men who had surrendered was deposed and another leader installed. The new commander ordered the captive men to march into the woods adjacent to and beyond the power house. Here the new leader directed that only those in the crowd who had guns should follow into the woods and those who were unarmed should remain without.

"The surrendered men were then marched some 200 yards back of the power house to the vicinity of a barbed wire fence, where they were told they would be given a chance to run for their lives under fire. The firing began immediately and thirteen of the forty-seven non-union men were killed and most of the others severely wounded.

"The mob pursued those who had escaped and two were hanged to trees, six were tied together with a rope about their necks and marched through the streets of Herrin to an adjacent cemetery, where they were shot by the mob

and the throats of three were cut. One of the six survived.

Union Refused to Lend Aid.

"On the first day of the attack upon the mine two union miners were killed by the answering fire from the men in the strip mine and another so seriously injured as to die subsequently from his wounds. It had been difficult for the Grand Jury to determine who fired the shots from the strip mine which caused the deaths of the union miners. When asked to present evidence to the Grand Jury which would tend to fix responsibility, counsel for the miners' union announced they would lend no aid to the Grand Jury.

"It is true the electorate of the county is responsible for those of its apathetic and cowardly officials who permit the disorders to grow from desultory rioting into a hideous massacre. Those evils can be corrected by the great majority of the population who believe in law and order asserting themselves and no longer consenting to be intimidated by a disorderly minority.

"The Grand Jury, while not denying the right of private property and its lawful uses, cannot help but feel that

the Southern Illinois Coal Company, of which L. J. Lester is president while,

perhaps, within its legal rights, was either woefully ignorant of the danger of its operations or blindly determined to risk strife and conflict if profits could be made.

"The Adjutant-General's office and the Sheriff alternated in passing responsibility, with neither taking decisive action to prevent disorders and protect property. We condemn the laxity of the local police in the various cities wherein stores were looted for firearms without interference by them. We commend the State's Attorney of Williamson county, Delos Duty, for his courage and fidelity to his oath of office and we express our gratitude to the Attorney-General of Illinois and his efficient assistants whose aid greatly facilitated the tremendous task confronting the Grand Jury."

JAPAN TO ENCOURAGE
IMPORTATION OF PINE

Tokio, Sept. 23.—The Japanese Government has decided to encourage the

importation of American pine with a

view to regulating the market quotations in general. There has been such a steady increase in the importation of American pine that some timber dealers here regard it as a menace to the domestic forestry enterprise and an attempt by the Government to check it is advocated.

Mr. Nakai, chief of the forestry affairs bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, however, belittled the suggestion while admitting the growing increase of the import from the United States. "It is true," he stated, "that during the last few years the import of American pine has been more than doubled, chiefly because of its lower quotations. But the imported timber is so inferior in quality that its growing importation can hardly menace the domestic forestry undertakings."

Instead of checking the import of American pine, therefore, according to Mr. Nakai, the Government will rather encourage it in the hope of utilizing it for the purpose of regulating the domestic market quotations on general timber.

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